

Chesapeake Cluster Elementary News

March 2021

Message from the Principals

Dear Chesapeake Cluster Elementary Families:



We are excited to greet our hybrid learners while continuing to balance the needs of our virtual learners. As always, we appreciate your ongoing support. Please refer to the schedule shared by homeroom teachers as we switch to 'bell schedule' hours beginning March 1.

When Anne Arundel County Public Schools begins returning elementary students to hybrid learning on March 1, daily procedures will be very different than they have been in the past. [Click here](#) to review health, safety, and behavior expectations and procedures now in place for all hybrid learners. NOTE: Parents/Guardians must fill out an individual Hybrid Learning Agreement for each one of their AACPS students. What should hybrid learners bring to school? Please be sure your child's Chromebook is fully charged and ready for instruction each morning. We ask that Chromebooks be transported in the case with the charger. Students are also reminded to bring a refillable water bottle, book to read, and school supplies. Students should dress in layers with appropriate clothing for outdoor recess.

This month, with the start of spring, we have a renewed energy and enthusiasm for learning and growing as a community of learners – whether virtual or hybrid. Please continue to remind your child of the importance of keeping his/her camera on, actively participating, and showing what he/she knows each and every day.

We look forward to continuing to support your child socially and emotionally in addition to academically. Please reach out to the school counselor and/ or administrator, should your child have any specific needs including those relative to our transition to hybrid instruction.

We recognize technology can present challenges, especially in our large and comprehensive school system. When technology problems arise, we will continue to teach our children that the valuable lessons in our Second Step Program extend beyond the morning meeting or Community Building Circle block, as they are life lessons related to identifying and managing our feelings and our reactions/responses to a variety of situations.

AACPS has started preparations for the 2021-2022 school year. Pre-K registration continues online at www.aacps.org. Registration for kindergarten will begin in April. At this time, AACPS has suspended all in-person registration. Click here if you wish to pursue an [Out of Area](#) request for 2021-2022 and submit appropriate documentation to your school. Please include supporting documentation to your school's principal for timely processing. Incomplete applications will be returned. Bodkin, Jacobsville, and Lake Shore Elementary Schools are OPEN for out-of-area transfers for 2021-2022. Fort Smallwood and Pasadena Elementary are CLOSED for out-of-area transfers for 2021-2022.

A few reminders for all families:

- If you have not previously submitted an AACPS Code of Student Conduct Acknowledgement Form, please [click here](#) to review and discuss the [handbook](#) with your student and download the form. Forms may be returned to your student's school.
- Please update your student's emergency card online if your address, or phone number (home, work, or cell) has changed.
- AACPS issued ChromeBooks to most families. If you have not received one, please contact your student's school to arrange pick-up. For hybrid learners, if you prefer your student to transport a personal device, you must submit the Personal Technology Acknowledgement form (link below) in order to connect to the school network.

Most importantly, take the time to reflect and celebrate your child's and family's accomplishments throughout our journey this academic school year. Although 2020-2021 has not been without its challenges, your children continue to demonstrate flexibility, perseverance, and fortitude in an ever-changing educational landscape.

Due to COVID-19, building access is by appointment only. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

The Chesapeake Cluster Elementary School Principals

Bonnie Myers, Bodkin Elementary

Bobbie Kesecker, Fort Smallwood Elementary

April Umile, Jacobsville Elementary

Julie Little-McVeary, Lake Shore Elementary

Jennifer Quirino, Pasadena Elementary



Personal Technology Acknowledgement Form

Please submit if your student will use a device from home for hybrid learning.

[Download](#)
76.7 KB



Student Transportation COVID-19 Acknowledgement of Risk

If your hybrid learner is riding a school bus to or from school, this form must be submitted to the school by the end of the first week.

[Download](#)
379.4 KB



Spring Travel Plans

As you are planning your spring break, please remember the Governor's Order for travel restrictions if your family will travel outside of Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, or West Virginia. Contact your student's school principal if you have any questions.

AACPS Unites

Through monthly themes, AACPS Unites will host lessons to expand, expose, and experience literature as diverse as our school community.

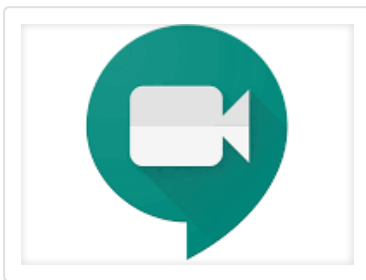
March Theme: Cultivate Compassion

AACPS Bus Transportation

The AACPS bus transportation schedule is posted online:

<https://www.aacps.org/buses>.

Bus routes may be updated periodically. Please arrive at the bus stop at least 10 minutes prior to the published time.



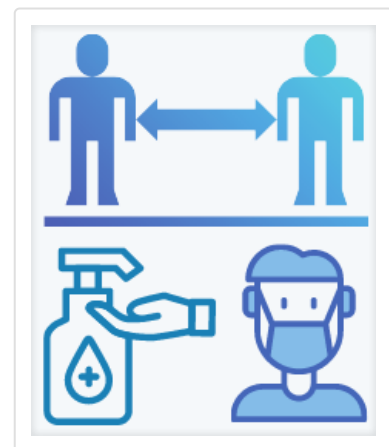
Cameras On, Please!

Learning is a multisensory process and teachers need to be able to see and interact with students to provide the best learning experience. Students and teachers are required to have their cameras on so that meaningful engagement and learning can take place.

Safety Protocols

Please review this information for Fall 2020 Safety Protocols: <https://www.aacps.org/safetyprotocols>

AACPS has provided a list of cleaning protocols; screening checklists; expectations for face coverings and social distancing; and protocols for confirmed COVID-19 cases.





Food & Nutrition Services

All Schools will continue curbside meals between 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm for children ages 2 -18. Curbside meals are FREE and include breakfast, lunch, dinner, and a snack. No RSVP necessary - so please stop by!



Connect with PTA

- [Bodkin Elementary](#)
- [Fort Smallwood Elementary](#)
- [Jacobsville Elementary](#)
- [Lake Shore Elementary](#)
- [Pasadena Elementary](#)

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Your child's teacher will be sending a sign-up sheet soon for our March conferences. Our parent/teacher partnership is important to us. **Save the Date... March 10**

Schedule Change!

[Click here](#) for more information on Spring 2021

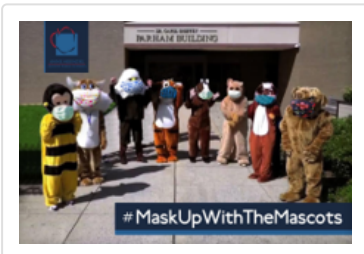
All schools will move to their school "bell" schedules when hybrid learning begins:

- Bodkin: 9:35am - 4:00pm
- Ft Smallwood: 9:10am-3:35pm
- Jacobsville: 9:00am-3:25pm
- Lake Shore: 9:05am-3:30pm
- Pasadena: 9:35am-4:00pm

Attendance Reminders (Virtual & Hybrid Learning)

Attendance is huge barrier to school success, even in the virtual world. Starting as early as kindergarten, missing 10% of school (or just 2 days every month) can make it harder to learn to read and cause children to fall behind in school. Anne Arundel County Public Schools considers any student who unlawfully misses school for eight days in any quarter, fifteen days in any semester or twenty days in a school year truant.

Not only is **attendance** critical to school success, it is the law. Maryland has a Compulsory Attendance Law. It states that children between the ages of 5 and 18 shall attend public school regularly during the entire school year unless otherwise enrolled in a private school, approved home instruction, or home teaching through the school. Parents may be charged in District Court for failure to see that their children attend school. Parents can be found guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine not to exceed \$50 per day of unlawful absence, or imprisonment not to exceed 5 days or both.



Follow Us on Twitter

[Bodkin Elementary:](#) @BodkinAACPS

[Fort Smallwood Elementary:](#) @FSESAACPS

[Jacobsville Elementary:](#) @JvilleAACPS

[Lake Shore Elementary:](#) @LakeShoreAACPS

[Pasadena Elementary:](#) @PES_AACPS

School hours will shift when AACPS re-opens for in-person learning:

Bodkin: 9:35am - 4:00pm

Ft Smallwood: 9:10am - 3:35pm

Jacobsville: 9:00am - 3:25pm

Lake Shore: 9:05am - 3:30pm

Pasadena: 9:35am - 4:00pm

Anne Arundel County Public Schools prohibits discrimination in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, or disability.

For more information, contact: Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Division of Human Resources, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401. 410-222-5286 TDD 410-222-5000 www.aacps.org.

